September 22, 1967

Mr. Ramsey Clark
The Attorney General

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

and J. Walter Yeagley
Assistant Attorney General
Internal Security Division

RECORD

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

129-11 J. C.

Attached for your information is a copy of the memorandum summarizing the conference held Thursday, September 21, 1967, between Mr. Nathaniel E. Kossack, First Assistant, Criminal Division, and Messrs. Edward F. Wegmann and Irvin Dymond, counsel for Clay L. Shaw. A copy of this memorandum has been furnished to Lawrence Houston, General Counsel, Central Intelligence Agency, with a request for his comments.

At the conference, Messrs. Dymond and Wegmann expressed their belief that if Clay L. Shaw is convicted of conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy, not only will the Warren Commission and the Commission's Report be completely discredited, but confidence throughout the world in the United States Government will be undermined. They expressed amazement and horror that one prosecutor in one medium-sized city could so affect the international stature of the United States. They cited the results of a public opinion poll taken in Louisiana during August at the direction of Governor John J. McKeithen, which revealed that 85% of those interviewed had a favorable impression of Jim Garrison. The District Attorney is a dangerous, irresponsible man and must be stopped, they concluded.

Dymond and Wegmann were disparaging of Judge Haggerty, who is scheduled to preside at the Shaw trial, saying that he is [redacted] Also, that he is rumored to have [redacted] Because of Haggerty's (possibly forced) disposition against Shaw, Dymond and Wegmann are hesitant to seek a change of venue, lest Haggerty assign the case to another parish where the political climate might be even less favorable.

Dymond and Wegmann, who claim that they are forced "to play with a stacked deck," presented a strong plea for investigative assistance and cooperation to help them refute charges that are otherwise unanswerable. Ultimately, their objective is access to information in the CIA files. Mr. Kossack said only that we would communicate with them further, without any pledge of assistance.

Mr. Kossack
Mr. Belcher
Mr. Dour
Mr. LaGour
Miss Thurman
Mr. Ulver
cc: Records
Chron.
Mr. Vinson
Mr. Yeagley

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